

WHISTON
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

BY

THOMAS U. MERCER, M.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health for the Whiston

Rural District,

FOR THE YEAR 1914.

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WHISTON

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1914.

The area of the district has been slightly changed during the year, two small portions of the townships of Whiston, amounting in all to 112.151 acres, having been taken into the Urban District of Prescott. This area included 47 houses, 37 of which were almshouses, and a total population of 106. This alteration of the boundary of the district has had the effect of changing the factor for the correction of the local death rate from 1.001 to 1.0115, as from the 1st October last.

The estimated population each year has always included the residents in both the Union Workhouse and the Asylum Annexe, and in order to make a comparison I have still included these in the estimated population for this year, but as the majority of these inmates do not belong to our district, and the births and deaths are transmitted to the localities from which they come, we get a false rate, and our returns make us look a healthier district than we really are.

The Census population of these institutions was :—Workhouse, 1,378 ; Asylum Annexe, 1,308. Assuming that this is about the usual number of inhabitants, of whom a certain proportion belong to our own district, say, 200 altogether, we should get a nett population of 19,724. This would bring our death rate to 13.5, instead of 12.0, and our birth rate to 23.1 instead of 20.5. The new factor for correction would have made our corrected death rate a decimal point higher, if it had applied for the whole year, but as it only came in for one quarter, the recorded death rate and the corrected death rate remain the same.

The total number of deaths is only 17 short of last year's total, which was larger than that of any year for the last 20 years.

Diseases of the respiratory system account for 76 deaths, which is the largest number for many years. 27 of these occurred in the last quarter of the year, when the weather was very cold and wet. Pneumonia was the cause of death in 33 cases, which is a larger number than any previously recorded. The deaths from phthisis were also more than usual.

Of the epidemic diseases, diphtheria accounted for the most deaths, viz., 8. The deaths from diarrhœa and enteritis numbered 7, 4 of which occurred in infants.

I again had pamphlets printed and circulated at the beginning of the summer, warning parents of the danger of diarrhœa in infants, and as to the cause and means of prevention of the disease.

Table I., as sent by the County Medical Officer of Health, requires more information than that given on the Local Government Board form. This is as follows:—

The nett births amounted to 455, of whom 233 were males and 222 females. The nett deaths were 267, comprising 161 males and 106 females.

There were no inward transfers of births, but there were 38 outward transfers. These consisted of 4 legitimate males, 4 legitimate females, 17 illegitimate males, and 13 illegitimate females. In the Workhouse there were 32 illegitimate births, and 10 others occurred in the district outside the Workhouse, 3 in Ditton, 3 in Halewood, 3 in Whiston, and 1 in Hale, making a total of 42, so that 12 illegitimates belong to the district, a percentage of 2.6 of the total births.

Ten deaths of persons belonging to the district occurred outside, and are therefore inward transfers. These were as follow:—

	Deaths.
Royal Infirmary, Liverpool	2
St. Helens Hospital, St. Helens	2
Providence Hospital, St. Helens	1
Fever Hospital, St. Helens	1
Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool	1
Accident Hospital, Widnes	1
and two others outside public institutions.	

The deaths of non-residents (outward transfers) in public institutions in the district were as follow :—

	Deaths.
Union Workhouse	253
Asylum Annexe	104
Eccleston Hall Sanatorium	31
Whiston Sanatorium	5
	<hr/>
	a total of 393

The total number of infectious diseases notified was 51 less than last year, the chief decrease being in enteric fever cases, of which there were 48 last year, and only 7 this year, and of these, 3 were erroneously diagnosed, so that there were actually only 4 cases, and in Table II. I have only included these.

The cases of tuberculosis of all kinds also show a large decrease, from 53 in 1913 to 21 in 1914. There have been more cases of both scarlet fever and diphtheria than last year, but there has been no special epidemic of either disease, and they have been spread throughout the district, scarlet fever appearing in 11 townships and diphtheria in 9. Many of the cases of diphtheria notified were very slight, and a considerable number were really septic throats, not diphtheritic, which, as I have previously stated, are always liable to occur from the breathing of foul air, either inside or outside the dwelling. Inside it is generally due to inefficient ventilation, and I have been in many bedrooms where the air has been very foul indeed, the window being kept tightly closed, and the chimney often stuffed up with a sack or bundle of rags, to prevent draughts, the people being very much afraid of catching cold, and having no idea that they may catch something very much worse by breathing contaminated air. I have even found bedroom windows nailed up so that they could not be opened. If the Council ever decides on appointing a health visitor, as is now being done in many districts, one useful duty might well be the instruction of the inhabitants on the value of fresh air.

Outside the dwelling the air is frequently polluted by the emanations from foul privies, a great deal too many of which exist in the district. In the early part of the year I made an inspection of the privies on the line of sewer in the townships of Ditton, Eccleston, Rainhill, and Whiston, where well-made sewers exist, and where water-closets might be conveniently substituted. They amounted to 277 in Ditton, 247 in Rainhill, 50 in Whiston, and 34 in

Eccleston, and the majority of them were in a very insanitary state. I presented a detailed report on the condition of these 608 privies to the Council, and it was decided that the owners of those which were in an insanitary condition should be written to, hoping to induce them to put in water closets in their place, but only two or three conversions have yet taken place, and stronger measures will have to be taken if any satisfactory result is to be obtained. I made enquiries from the Medical Officers of Health of the neighbouring districts of Widnes, Prescott, and St. Helens, as to what steps their Councils were taking with regard to the conversion of privy middens into the water carriage system, and was informed that in each case the Council contributed towards the cost of conversion, and, in my opinion, very little will be accomplished in this matter in our district until we are prepared to do likewise.

Hale is another township where the privies are very bad indeed. The majority are simply deep holes full of liquid filth, a portion of which is occasionally taken out and used on the garden. They are never properly emptied from one year's end to another, and if they were, it would be impossible to clean them, as they are not cemented inside, and some are devoid of any lining whatever except earth. It was suggested that pail closets should be substituted, and the agent to the estate was agreeable to this being done, but as there is a sewer constructed, some of the Council were of opinion that water closets should be put in. Of course, this would be still better, if feasible. I met the agent in the village by appointment, along with one of the members of the Council, and the Sanitary Inspector, and the matter was discussed, but he would not agree to do this on any account, unless actually forced. His objections were that the sewer was not capable of dealing with the extra sewage, and could not be made so (the largest portion of the sewer is only twelve inches, and the outlet is into a tidal brook running into the estuary of the River Mersey). Also, that the expense entailed by breakages from frost in outside W.C.'s in a village like this, would be quite prohibitive. There the matter stands at present, but something is urgently required. The village is peculiar in some respects, as although the population is only small, the Census population was 496, and it varies very little, in the summer months there are a great many visitors.

Of the non-notifiable diseases, several have been prevalent during the year, particularly measles and whooping cough, and I have found it necessary to advise the closing of several schools to prevent the spread of these diseases. They were as follow :—

Knowsley Girls' and Infants' Schools, for whooping cough in May, for a total of eight weeks.

Whiston School. Summer vacation increased from four to five weeks, owing to whooping cough.

Rainhill R.C. Infants' School, four weeks in November for whooping cough.

Speke School, four weeks, including the usual Christmas vacation, for whooping cough; and

Knowsley Infants' School again in December, for measles and chicken pox.

The condition of most of the Elementary Schools in the district is satisfactory, but in a few instances the sanitary conveniences are not kept as clean as they should be. In one case the boys' urinals were both defective and dirty. I wrote to the school correspondent with regard to this matter, and he has promised to have it put right. In one infants' school I was pleased to find that it was the custom for a teacher to accompany any child using the closets, and teaching it to be cleanly in its habits, and certainly the results obtained give every reason for satisfaction, as both on the infants' side, and the senior school attached, the conveniences are not soiled in the same manner that they are in the case of other schools, where the scholars are entirely left to themselves.

In connection with school matters, I believe that in some districts, it is the practice for the parent of any new child entering the school, to bring particulars of any illnesses from which the child has previously suffered, and a card is kept for each scholar, on which this is recorded, and also any illnesses he may have while attending the school, and this is taken away with the scholar on his leaving and entering any other school. As many of the infectious diseases of childhood are more or less protective against a second attack, this record would be useful whenever any infectious disease appeared in the school, as it would show at once which children would be the most likely to be attacked, and might enable the teachers to exclude certain scholars with advantage, while allowing others to remain at school, e.g., if measles was known to be present in the district it would be wise to exclude any child, who had not had the disease, who appeared to be suffering from an ordinary cold, while allowing another with the same symptoms, who had previously suffered from an attack, to remain.

At Whiston School, water closets have been provided during the year, in place of the pail closets, which were very unsatisfactory, and a great improvement has taken place.

The children in the Elementary Schools are periodically examined by the School Medical Officer, who is appointed by the County Council, and he is accompanied by a nurse. During the year, he reported to me two children whom he found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

There continues to be an improvement in the condition in which the cowsheds are kept, the lime-washing being attended to more regularly, and the animals themselves, as a rule, are more carefully attended to and kept in a more cleanly state than was formerly the case, but there is still room for improvement in some cases. With regard to the keeping of other animals, especially pigs, there is need for some action. I seldom come across a clean pig-stye. In many cases the floor of the stye is simply a mass of liquid filth. In one extreme case, where I called the attention of the owner to the condition, I was informed that it was impossible to keep pigs clean, and so no attempt was made to do so, but this is a very erroneous idea; it is quite possible to keep them clean, and they thrive very much better if they are kept clean. At one place in the district where about 400 pigs are kept, it is a treat to go through the buildings and see what can be done in the way of cleanliness.

The factories and workshops are usually to be found in fair condition, and there has been an improvement in a few instances in the condition of the sanitary conveniences for the workmen, e.g., at Neill's Foundry new closets, with separate partitions, have been put in, in place of the former exposed closets. In some of the workshops lime-washing might be done a little oftener with advantage, but where there is an open fire the ceilings and walls very soon become blackened again. In one case, where I had a notice served on the occupier to lime-wash the inside of the shop, he informed me that it would be as bad again in a fortnight.

The bakehouses and slaughterhouses are all satisfactory. In the summer I was requested to inspect the carcasses of beasts killed in the district for any evidence of foot and mouth disease. I inspected a considerable number, but found no evidence of the disease.

During the year proper water supplies have been laid on at a few farms and cottages which were formerly without. An extension from the Whiston mains has been made to Fairchild Farm and the lodge near it, and at Lower Barrowfield, Ecclestone, where the supply was made fit for domestic use by means of the filter put in last year, the purified water has now been carried on to the cottages lower down the road, where formerly water from wells, liable to contamination, was in use.

A new supply is also being laid on to the portion of the township of Bold which was not included when the mains were laid to the greater part of the district a few years ago. When this is completed almost the whole of the township will have a satisfactory supply.

The Council have not yet taken over the scavenging in Whiston, Rainhill, and Eccleston, but hope to do so very shortly, and the contracts are now let monthly, with this idea in view. The war has had something to do with the delay, there being some difficulty in obtaining suitable horses for the purpose, owing to so many having been bought up by the Government.

In addition to the ordinary work in the township of Eccleston, the contractor is engaged to do the scavenging work for the military units stationed in the neighbourhood, viz., two battalions of the King's Liverpool Regiment in Knowsley Park, and another one just outside.

I proferred my services, and those of the Sanitary Inspector, to the medical officers in charge of these troops, and have inspected their quarters. The present arrangements for sewage disposal are not satisfactory, and Mr. Knapman, the Surveyor to the Council, has made out plans for the construction of new filter beds and septic tanks, and these are about to be put in. For the excreta, pails are used, which are removed and emptied each day by the contractor.

I also inspected the quarters of a small detachment of the Lancashire Hussars, who are quartered in another part of the same park, and made suggestions as to the method of sewage disposal, which have since been adopted.

We have had a number of men belonging to the battalions mentioned, and also from another battalion of the same regiment, quartered in Prescot, for treatment in the Sanatorium, and we have stretched the accommodation of the hospital so as to admit cases of other infectious diseases, chiefly measles, than we usually treat.

The staff at the Sanatorium have been kept busy during the whole of the year. The cases treated from our own district numbered 108, comprising scarlet fever 60, diphtheria 41, enteric fever 4, and three others sent in as enteric fever, but later on diagnosed as other diseases, and therefore omitted from the list of cases removed to hospital, in Table II.

From outside districts, and from the military units in the neighbourhood, we have had another 36 cases, making a total of 144 cases treated in the hospital during the year.

A sewage scheme has been prepared for the township of Knowsley, with septic tanks and filter beds, near Alder-lane, but the work has not yet been begun. It is hoped to have it completed during this next year.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS, 1910

Number of dwelling-house inspected under Sec. 17 of the Act of 1909	323
Number of dwelling-houses considered unfit for human habitation	7
Number of representations to Authority with a view to making of Closing Orders	7
Number of Closing Orders made	7
Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders	0
Number of dwelling-houses put into a fit state of habi- tation after making Closing Orders	2
Number of dwelling-houses demolished	0

General character of defects found to exist:—Foul privies, defective drainage and paving, dampness, fowls kept in back-yards, &c.

All the disused coal-pit shafts in the district are now properly fenced in.

The Sanitary Inspector has handed me his report of the work done in various townships during the year; also a description of the nuisances dealt with, a summary of the houses disinfected, &c., as follows:—

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Dilapidated privies	9
Dilapidated ashpits	8
Foul privies	27
Foul ashpits	32
Choked drains	60
Choked intercepting traps	16
Choked water closets	9
Choked gullies	6
Defective gullies	6
Defective sink pipes	14
Defective yard paving	46
Fowls kept so as to be a nuisance	22
Pigs kept so as to be a nuisance	2
Foul matter deposited so as to be a nuisance ...	2
Nightsoil deposited so as to be a nuisance	1
Foul ditches	4
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Total	264

Number of notices served to abate nuisances:—90.

Number of letters written calling attention to the existence of nuisances, or sanitary work required to be done :—Total, 195.

HOUSES DISINFECTED AFTER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Bold	6
Ditton	21
Eccleston	5
Hale	11
Halewood	29
Knowsley	6
Rainhill	5
Speke	3
Tarbock	1
Whiston	13
Windle	6
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Total	106

WATER ANALYSIS.

Four samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination, and one for chemical analysis.

He also made 123 inspections of cowsheds, and he has been kept busily employed throughout the year.

THOMAS U. MERCER.

MARCH 4TH, 1915.

TABLE I.

WHISTON RURAL DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1914 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANS- FERABLE DEATHS. of Non-residents registered in the District. of Residents not registered in the District.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.						Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
									Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
			3	4	5	6	7	8					9	10	11	12	13
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909.	21060	502	..	23'8	556	26.4	331	2	51	101'6	227	10'8
1910.	21370	495	..	23'2	501	23'4	293	3	51	103'0	211	9'9
1911.	21194	550	498	23'5	559	26'4	326	20	60	120'5	253	11'9
1912.	21450	483	440	21'0	583	27'2	370	18	39	88'6	231	10'8
1913.	21826	503	472	21'6	607	27'8	339	16	53	112'3	284	13'0
1914.	22210	493	455	20'5	657	29'6	400	10	48	105'5	267	12'0

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 31,291.

Total population at all ages, 21,194 (Census 1911).

Total families or separate occupiers, 3,814 (Census 1911).

TABLE II.
WHISTON RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases Notified								Total Cases Notified in Each Locality.												Total Cases removed to Hospital.				
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							Bold	Cronton	Ditton	Eccleston	Hale	Halewood	Knowsley	Rainhill	Spike	Tarbock	Whiston	Windle					
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 & upwards.																	
Smallpox.....
Cholera.....
Diphtheria.....	52	7	39	2	4	4	...	6	7	15	2	7	3	...	6	...	2	...	41	...
Membranous Croup	9	1	3	5	2	1	2	4
Erysipelas.....	80	29	49	...	2	...	...	5	...	13	5	9	18	4	1	2	1	2	1	19	3	...	60	...
Scarlet fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever.....	4	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	4	...
Relapsing fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Opthal. Neonat'r'm	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
P'lm'nary T'culosis	16	...	4	1	9	2	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	8	...	...	...	...
Oth'r forms "	5	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Totals	171	638	95	6	19	7	...	12	1	27	5	16	38	6	10	5	3	43	5	...	...	...	105	...

Whiston Sanatorium (Isolation Hospital) belonging to the Whiston Rural District Council.

TABLE III.—WHISTON RURAL DISTRICT.
Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

CAUSES OF DEATH. 1	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District. 11
	All Ages. 2	Under 1 year. 3	1 and under 2. 4	2 and under 5. 5	5 and under 15. 6	15 and under 25. 7	25 and under 45. 8	45 and under 65. 9	65 and upwards 10	
All causes { Certified ..	261	44	13	8	16	7	44	53	76	435
Uncertified ..	6	4	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Enteric Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small Pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	3	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Scarlet Fever	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	5
Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup ..	8	..	1	2	5	..	..	..	..	4
Influenza	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1
Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ..	20	..	..	..	1	1	16	2	..	88
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	4	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	8
Cancer, malignant disease	14	..	..	..	..	..	4	7	3	27
Rheumatic Fever	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis	3	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2
Organic Heart Disease ..	24	..	..	..	..	..	5	13	6	36
Bronchitis	20	6	..	..	..	..	1	4	9	22
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	33	..	3	4	3	2	3	6	3	21
Other diseases of respira- tory organs	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	3
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ..	7	4	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	4
Appendicitis & Typhlitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	4	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	7
Alcoholism .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	12	..	..	..	1	1	2	6	2	34
Puerperal Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other accidents & diseases of Pregnancy and Par- turation	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	3
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ..	17	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	11	2	1	1	..	1	3	2	1	9
Suicide	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Other Defined Diseases ..	73	9	3	..	2	..	3	8	48	154
	267	48	13	9	16	7	44	54	76	435
Pneumonia other than Broncho-Pneumonia ..	17	2	3	..	3	..	2	5	2	18

TABLE IV.—WHISTON RURAL DISTRICT.
INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1914.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All causes	Certified ..	..	..	9	5	3	2	19	7	6	7	5	44
	Uncertified	..	..	3				3	1				4
{ Small-pox													
{ Chicken pox													
{ Measles													
{ Scarlet Fever													
{ Whooping-cough													
{ Diphtheria and Croup..													
{ Erysipelas													
{ Tuberculous Meningitis ..													
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis ..													
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases..													
{ Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ..									1				1
{ Convulsions				1				1	1				2
{ Laryngitis													
{ Bronchitis									2	2		2	6
{ Pneumonia (all forms) ..									1	2	4	2	9
{ Diarrhœa					1			1	1			1	3
{ Enteritis.. ..										1			1
{ Gastritis.. ..													
{ Syphilis											1		1
{ Rickets													
{ Suffocation, overlying ..				1				1					1
{ Injury at Birth				1	1			2					2
{ Atelectasis													
{ Congenital Malformations ..					1			1					1
{ Premature Birth				7		1		8					8
{ Atrophy, Debility and ..													
{ Marasmus				2	2	1	1	6	1		1		8
{ Other Causes						1	1	2	1	1	1		5
				12	5	3	2	22	8	6	7	5	48

Nett Births in the year—legitimate, 443; illegitimate, 12.

Nett Deaths in the year of—legitimate infants. 45.
illegitimate infants, 3

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

WHITBY URBAN DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1914.

BY

W. E. F. TINLEY, M.D., M.R.C.S.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health for the District of
Whitby for the Year 1914.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Fourteenth Annual Report, and to thank you for your help and kind co-operation in the work of my Department during the year. The year has been disappointing to me—I hoped to get a lot of work done, especially in connection with the Housing and Town Planning Scheme, and much work was done up to the end of July, but, unfortunately, war broke out, and I was called up in the early part of August, and this work, which I looked upon to be personally responsible for, stopped.. The Inspector of Nuisances, Mr. O. E. Graham, who had previously helped me, carried on the work which was in hand. Dr. L. Pern, who has been Assistant Medical Officer of Health, took over my work when I went on active service. My Report for the year will be divided under the following headings:—

- I.—**Vital Statistics**, including an account of the Births, Deaths, Population, and Infectious Diseases.

- 2.—**Sanitary Work of the year**, and action taken during the year with regard to milk and food.
- 3.—**Meteorological Observations.**
- 4.—**Work done in the Isolation Hospital.**
- 5.—**Work done under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.**
- 6.—**Work done under the Workshops and Factory Act, 1901.**
- 7.—**Inspector's Report.**
- 8.—**Veterinary Inspector's Report.**

1.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the district is 11,139, according to the last Census, and I have reason to think that this is approximately correct at the present time.

1. **Births.**—I am glad to see a slight rise in the number of births. It is to be hoped that the births all over the country will go up, as there will be considerable wastage to make up for after the war is over.

- a. The following gives the number of births for the last five years:—

1914	...	...	...	260
1913	...	...	...	249
1912	...	...	...	243
1911	...	...	...	241
1910	...	...	...	267

- b. The following table gives the number of births for each quarter:—

			1st Qr.		2nd Qr.		3rd Qr.		4th Qr.		Total.
Whitby	...	Boys	...	20	...	28	...	36	...	18	102
		Girls	...	24	...	24	...	19	...	19	86
Ruswarp	...	Boys	...	7	...	5	...	5	...	10	27
		Girls	...	6	...	16	...	6	...	7	35
Helredale	...	Boys	...	1	...	2	...	0	...	3	6
		Girls	...	1	...	0	...	2	...	1	4
			—		—		—		—		—
				59		75		68		58	260
			—		—		—		—		—

c. Number in each sub-district :—

Whitby	...	...	...	188
Ruswarp	...	...	...	62
Helredale	...	...	...	10

d. Birth-rate for the quarters :—

1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
5.2	6.7	6.1	5.2

e. For the year the birth-rate is 23.3 per 1,000.

f. The number of illegitimate births is as follows :—

		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total
Whitby	Boys	1	4	2	0	7
	Girls	0	1	1	1	3
Ruswarp	Boys	0	0	0	1	1
	Girls	0	1	0	0	1
Helredale	Boys	0	0	0	0	0
	Girls	0	0	0	0	0
		1	6	3	2	12

g. Illegitimate birth-rate is 4.6 per cent.

2. **Deaths.**—The number of deaths during the year is rather larger than usual, being 180; if we exclude the number of deaths of strangers who died in public institutions, it is reduced to 172; or, deducting the number of deaths of all strangers who died in the town, it is 168. These figures give a gross death-rate of 16.1 per 1,000; or, corrected, we get a death-rate of 15.4 for the first correction and 15.08 for the second one. Fourteen persons died in the Union Workhouse, 8 in the Cottage Hospital, and 2 at the Convent.

a. The following gives the deaths in a tabular form :

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total.
Acute Inflammatory					
Diseases of Chest	7	6	0	8	21
Emphysema	1	0	0	0	1
Pulmonary Embolism	1	0	0	1	2
Laryngitis	0	1	0	0	1
Asthma	2	0	0	0	2
Non-inflammatory Diseases					
of Brain & Spinal Cord	6	6	4	1	17

Meningitis	I	...	I	...	O	...	O	...	2
Melancholia	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Convulsions	O	...	I	...	O	...	I	...	2
Menieré's Disease	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
Cardiac Disease	2	...	6	...	6	...	9	...	23
Thrombosis	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Arteriosclerosis	I	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	2
Peritonitis	I	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	2
Appendicitis	I	...	I	...	O	...	I	...	3
Intestinal Obstruction	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
Diarrhœa	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
Gastritis	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
Strangulated Hernia	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
Gastroenteritis	O	...	O	...	O	...	I	...	I
Icterus Neonatorum	O	...	O	...	O	...	I	...	I
Senile Decay	I	...	6	...	4	...	I	...	12
Bright's Disease	I	...	O	...	2	...	O	...	3
Stricture of Urethra	O	...	I	...	O	...	O	...	I
Hæmaturia	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
Cystitis	O	...	O	...	O	...	I	...	I
Gonorrhœa	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Sarcoma	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Cancer	2	...	4	...	7	...	5	...	18
Injury at Birth	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
Premature Birth	2	...	I	...	4	...	I	...	8
Coroner's Inquests—									
Accidents	O	...	I	...	I	...	I	...	3
Murder	O	...	O	...	O	...	3	...	3
Natural Causes	2	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	2
Tubercular Abscess of									
Breast	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	3	...	2	...	4	...	I	...	10
General Tuberculosis	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Tubercular Peritonitis	O	...	I	...	O	...	I	...	2
Tubercular Meningitis	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
Tubercular Disease of									
Sacrum	O	...	O	...	O	...	I	...	I
Rheumatoid Arthritis	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Lyphadenoma	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Purpura Hæmorrhagica ..	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Osteomyelitis	O	...	I	...	O	...	O	...	I
Marasmus	O	...	I	...	O	...	O	...	I
Rickets	O	...	I	...	O	...	O	...	I
Diabetes	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
Influenza	I	...	I	...	O	...	I	...	3
Pertussis	I	...	2	...	2	...	I	...	6
Enteric Fever	O	...	O	...	O	...	I	...	I

To these have to be added the deaths of Whitby residents who have died away from home in public institutions. These are as follows :—

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd. Qr.	4th Qr.	Total				
Cardiac Disease	I	...	O	...	O	...	O	...	I
Diphtheria	O	...	O	...	I	...	O	...	I
General Paralysis of									
Insane	O	...	O	...	O	...	2	...	2
Diabetes	O	...	O	...	O	...	I	...	I
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	46	44	46	44	180				
	—	—	—	—	—				

b. The death-rate for the quarters is as follows :—

Total	...	4.1	3.9	4.12	3.9 per 1,000
Corrected	...	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.77 per 1,000

c. The ages at which the deaths occurred were as follows :—

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr	4th Qr.	Total				
Under 1 year	3	...	4	...	8	...	3	...	18
Between 1 and 5 years...	1	...	6	...	2	...	3	...	12
Between 5 and 15 years...	3	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	8
Between 15 and 25 years...	1	...	1	...	1	...	0	...	3
Between 25 and 65 years...	18	...	10	...	10	...	21	...	59
Over 65 years of age ...	20	...	22	...	22	...	16	...	80
	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—
	46	44	46	44	180				

58 were over 70 and 23 were over 80, 4 over 90, and one reached the age of 94 years.

d. The following gives the number of deaths for the last 5 years, for the sake of comparison :—

1914	...	...	...	180
1913	...	...	...	152
1912	...	...	...	179
1911	...	...	...	188
1910	...	...	...	168

e. The next table gives the number of males and females who died in each quarter :—

		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total
Males	.....	29	21	23	23	96
Females	.....	17	23	23	21	84
		—	—	—	—	—
		46	44	46	44	180
		—	—	—	—	—

f. The death-rate for the year is as follows:—Total death-rate, 16.1 per 1,000. Corrected for deaths which have occurred in public institutions, and amongst non-residents, it is 15.08 per 1,000, and, corrected for deaths of non-residents who have died in public institutions, it is 15.4 per 1,000.

g. There have been 10 deaths from Phthisis during the year, which gives a Phthisis death-rate of .89 per 1,000; and there have been 16 deaths from all Tubercular Diseases, which gives a Tubercular death-rate of 1.43 per 1,000 for the year.

h. The number of deaths from Infectious Diseases are as follows:—From notifiable diseases, 2—one from Diphtheria and one from Enteric, the latter being imported, hence we get an infectious death-rate of .08 per 1,000 for notifiable diseases; from non-notifiable diseases, the following deaths have been registered: 6 from Pertussis, 1 from influenza, 1 from Diarrhœa, giving a total infectious rate of .89 per 1,000 for the year.

i. Infantile Mortality; i.e., the number of deaths registered in children under 1 year of age for each 1,000 children born. The number of deaths is 18, giving an infantile death-rate of 69. In England and Wales, it is usually from 120 to 130. The Infantile death-rate for the last 6 years is as follows:—

1914	...	...	...	69
1913	...	...	...	48.2
1912	...	...	...	86.4
1911	...	...	...	120.3
1910	...	...	...	59.9
1909	...	...	...	93.5

The Notification of Infectious Diseases.—This year, the number of notifications has been small. We have had a few cases of Scarlet Fever, and also a few of Diphtheria, but these diseases have never become epidemic; and we also had a number of cases of Measles, but again this disease did not become very widespread, and it has not been necessary to close any of the schools for infectious disease during the year.

Diphtheria.—We have had 12 notifications during the year, which is satisfactory! Only one case was fatal, this one being removed to the Isolation Hospital in a moribund condition.

Scarlet Fever.—We have also had 12 notifications of this disease, but it never became alarming.

Puerperal Fever.—I am happy to state that we have had no notification of this disease during the year.

Typhoid Fever.—Again, we have had no case which has had its origin in the town. One case was notified, and unfortunately proved fatal; this was the case of a sailor, who came home ill. I think that there cannot be any town in the United Kingdom that is freer from this disease than Whitby is, and we hope that it may long remain so.

Tubercular Diseases.—During 1914, I have had 16 notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and one of Tubercular Disease of other parts of the body. The former included 3 strangers—2 staying at the Convent, and one living in rooms in the town; 2 of the cases were notified from Sanatoria away, and 5 cases of Phthisis were notified from Sanatoria away that had not previously been notified in the town, and I notice also that I have not had notifications for several persons who have died in the town from Phthisis or other Tubercular diseases. This should not be so, as it is quite impossible to take any precautionary measures, or to give any help to Tubercular cases unless I am first notified of their whereabouts. I think that the medical men very much appreciate the opportunity of being able to have bacteriological tests done free, and it is a great help in doubtful cases. I am in the habit of visiting all houses from which Phthisis cases are notified, giving instructions about the precautions to be taken, in order to prevent the disease spreading; and, in any cases where I think that there is reason to believe that the instructions are not understood, I also send a printed leaflet, with instructions. Rooms in which Phthisis patients die are disinfected. I am hoping that, year after year, as the public becomes more and more to understand what can be done to check this disease, and as more and more accommodation is provided in Sanatoria—especially for early cases—we shall find a great reduction in the number of cases that occur in the district. I am glad to find that the public is becoming more anxious about disinfection for this disease, and I think I may safely say that this remark applies not only to Phthisis, but to other infectious diseases, including Cancer.

The notifications which I have received for the year are as follows :—

	1st Qr		2nd Qr.		3rd Qr		4th Qr.		Total
Diphtheria	3	...	2	...	5	...	2	...	12
Scarlet Fever	1	...	2	...	3	...	6	...	12
Erysipelas	0	...	0	...	6	...	3	...	9
Typhoid Fever	0	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	1
Phthisis	5	...	8	...	0	...	3	...	16
Other Tubercular Diseases	0	...	1	...	0	...	0	...	1
	—		—		—		—		—
	9	...	13	...	14	...	15	...	51
	—		—		—		—		—

2.—SANITARY WORK FOR THE YEAR.

Your Inspector, Mr. Graham, has done excellent work during the year, as a glance at his report will show, and, first in one department, and then in another for which he is responsible, there is a straightening-up, and an effort is being made to make that department more and more efficient, and, in many cases also, more economical as well. I do not consider that it is by any means sound policy to do the work of a department at the smallest cost ! Efficiency should be the goal to aim at, at the same time making the running expenses as small as they can be consistent with efficiency.

Common Lodging-houses.—The same two are still being used, and are fairly satisfactory, the tendency being to overcrowd them if the proprietors are not watched. I intended to tackle the question of the Common Lodging-houses this year, if I had not been called from home, as I think that there are various ways in which they might be improved.

Offensive Trades.—It is very satisfactory to note that a suitable place has been found, away from the centre of the town, which is being used for carrying on the offensive trades which we have here. The work is being carried on by a firm which has done all that we have recommended to render the carrying out of these necessary trades as little offensive as possible.

Cowsheds and Dairies.—A very great advance has been made towards rendering the milk supply satisfactory. I refer to the appointment of a qualified Veterinary Surgeon, to inspect the cows used for the supply of milk ; his report is appended. His report is—I take it—on the whole, satisfactory. I should like to see all milch cows tested with Tuberculin, and, in time, I think that this will come about ;

but it is astonishing to me to find how indifferent the public is about this very important matter. There is room for much more cleanliness in the milking operation; every cow ought to be groomed, and its teats and udder washed before the milk is extracted, and this should only be done by a milker whose hands have been washed. I admit that this requires a certain amount of extra time, but I am sure that, if customers knew that this was done, they would much more readily drink the milk that was sold to them, and also that the consumption of milk would go up. Many of the cowsheds have been improved as regards light and ventilation, but there is still much need for further improvement. Landlords, as well as tenants, should recognise this, and see that their cowsheds are so constructed, and are in such repair, that they can be kept clean and well ventilated, and that there is an abundance of light.

It is to be hoped that the Rural District Council, who now have their cowsheds and dairy regulations, will see their way to appoint a Veterinary Surgeon. This is of great importance to the Urban area, as so much of our milk supply comes of necessity from the Rural District.

Sewerage.—There is nothing to add to previous reports. There can be no doubt that there is much less need for complaints about the harbour smelling than there used to be before the channel was deepened in connection with the harbour scheme. There is only one case of stream pollution, so far as I know—this is at Briggswath, on the boundary between the urban and rural districts. I never have any complaints about it.

Water Supply.—This can be dismissed with a reference to my report for 1913.

Scavenging, and Work under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, are fully dealt with in the Inspector's Report. I should like only to make mention of one thing in this connection: that is the provision of a Refuse Destructor; and I am given to understand that there is a reasonable chance of this being acquired shortly. It becomes more and more difficult year by year to get rid of the nightsoil and trade refuse, and I think that the Council will agree that some fresh method of disposal should be gone on with.

Slaughter-houses.—Mr. Graham's report shows the amount of meat that has been condemned during the year, but I think it is difficult—if not impossible—to inspect all the animals that are slaughtered; and the meat that has been condemned shows the need for such inspections,

It is only possible for this to be done thoroughly if all the slaughtering goes on under one roof. It is gratifying to find that the butchers are always willing to voluntarily surrender any carcase that is not all right on the Inspector calling their attention to it.

Port Sanitary Work.—Seventy-three vessels, excluding fishing boats, have come into the port during the year; these are almost all trading from port to port in the United Kingdom. There have been no cases of illness reported on any of these boats.

RAINFALL AT WHITBY.

Rain Gauge—Diameter of Funnel, 8 inches; height of top—above ground, 1 foot; above sea level, 125 feet.

Month.	Total Depth. Inches.	Greatest Fall in 24 hours. Inches.	Date.	Number of days with '01 or more recorded.
January	1.58	0.46	8th	16
February	1.68	0.47	21st	13
March	1.77	0.31	20th	17
April	0.61	0.15	24th	12
May	1.02	0.36	23rd	11
June	1.39	0.54	9th	10
July	4.67	2.53	16th	14
August	0.98	0.28	24th	10
September	1.15	0.32	16th	8
October	1.73	0.51	29th	12
November	2.84	0.55	15th	25
December	5.24	0.57	4th	24
	<hr/> 24.66 <hr/>			<hr/> 172 <hr/>

BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

	Duration in hours and Decimals.	Daily Mean.	Hours per day. Per Cent.
January	38.7	1.25	16
February	89.5	3.21	34
March	129.4	4.16	36
April	239.4	7.97	57
May	166.4	5.35	34
June	198.8	6.63	39
July	144.8	4.68	29
August	192.7	6.23	42
September	188.8	6.30	50
October	78.3	2.52	24
November	40.5	1.37	17
December	49.7	1.61	23

Monthly Mean, 129.8 hr.; Daily Mean, 4.27 hr.

HUMIDITY OF THE ATMOSPHERE.

From Psychrometer Readings, at 125 feet, M.S.L.
Percentage of aqueous vapour held in suspension by the
atmosphere.

	TEMPERATURE, ° F.				
	Bi-diurnal.		Daily Mean.	Mean Temp. ° F	Mean Range. ° F
	9 a.m.	9 p.m.			
January	81 %	86 %	= 84 %	.....	39.8 8.3
February	80	89	85	.....	45.1 11.3
March	73	86	80	.....	43.6 13.2
April	67	83	75	.....	50.0 21.0
May	69	82	76	.....	52.6 17.9
June	72	84	78	.....	57.8 19.1
July	74	88	81	.....	61.1 15.4
August	73	89	81	.. ..	61.5 19.2
September	70	86	78	.....	56.6 19.6
October	83	91	87	.....	51.3 14.1
November	85	87	86	.....	44.8 11.1
December	85	88	87	.....	40.3 8.9
Monthly Mean ...	81.5 per cent.			.....	50.4

4.—WORK DONE IN THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR.

At the end of 1913, 2 cases of Scarlet Fever remained in the Hospital, and during this year there have been admitted 10 cases of Diphtheria, and 9 of Scarlet Fever. All these cases recovered except one of Diphtheria, which was admitted in a moribund condition. During the same period, we have had 9 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 of Diphtheria admitted from the Rural District; these have all recovered. These cases make a total of 31 cases which have received treatment at the Hospital. I have again to recognise the excellent work of the Matron, who has, as usual, carried out her duties in a most satisfactory manner. I am glad to say that there have been no cases of mixed infection during the year, and no return cases.

5.—THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT OF 1909.

Up to August, the work under this Act was constantly going on, but, when war broke out, and I was called up for service, it stopped, and very little has been done since; no

new work has been undertaken, but your Inspector, who used to accompany me in my work, has followed up any work that was under consideration when I left. There are the usual questions to consider of overcrowding, difficulties in dealing with the small capitalist, the filthy and careless habits of a large number of the inhabitants, and I am sure that what I have said in previous reports is as true to-day as when it was written, namely, that, before we get a satisfactory solution of our difficulties, some form of purchase by the Council will have to take place so that houses can be demolished in order that more light and air may be let into the parts of the town that are at present deficient in these essentials; it could be done in small sections, getting the money for it by means of a loan, the money being borrowed in small quantities at a time as it was wanted. During the year, a house in Blacksmith's Arms Yard has been demolished by the Council, and the Council has also pulled down a condemned house in Low Hospital Yard; these two demolitions have very considerably improved the yards mentioned. Two houses in Old Brewery Yard, which have been condemned, are to be purchased by the Council for demolition purposes. In Salt Pan Wells Steps, 3 houses, which I condemned, were sold, and 2 of them have been pulled down and 1 put into very good repair. The Education Authorities have purchased, and pulled down, the condemned property in the Old Post Office Yard, and have improved the condition of this overcrowded part of the town. The so-called "Church Houses" have been put into good repair on the lines, which I suggested to the Trustees of the Whitby United Charities, which deals with them. During the year, 81 houses were inspected, making a total of 818 since the work under this Act was taken in hand in 1910. In addition to these inspections, some of the properties under repair have made it necessary to visit them a dozen or more times, so as to watch the work and see that the necessary repairs were carried out satisfactorily. During the year, 8 closing orders were served; 6 of these were on one owner, who has now done some of the work asked for; and in the other two cases nothing has been done. Defects were found on 30 premises, and were remedied as follows:—

Drains reconstructing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sink pipes disconnecting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Drains properly trapped	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Vent shafts erected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Yards concreted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Eaves spouting repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fall pipes disconnected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Windows made to open	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

Roofs repaired	14
Bedrooms provided with light and ventilation	2
Damp walls repaired	5
Defective plastering attended to	1
House floors repaired	2
Privies converted to water-carriage system	12
Dust-bins provided in place of ashpits	12

The defects which I find in so many of the houses in the town are want of proper water supply and sinks, and I think that something should be done to try and remedy this; wherever I have had to have work undertaken, I have tried to have these defects remedied, and it is very much to the comfort of the tenants. I have also endeavoured to do away, as far as possible, with the so-called "closed bed-places," which are such a feature of our houses here, and which cannot possibly be looked upon as satisfactory. I am hoping that, when I get back home, if the Council is prepared to keep my berth open for me, I shall be able to continue the work under the Housing and Town Planning Act, and carry out some of the improvements that are so much needed.

Yours faithfully,

W. E. F. TINLEY, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1914
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Nett.		Rate.	Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
									Uncorrected Number.	Number.		Rate.
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.					
1909	11,748	278	278	23·6	180	15·32			26	93·5	168	14·29
1910	11,748	267	267	22·7	168	14·3			16	59·9	159	13·4
1911	11,130	241	241	21·6	188	16·8	13	6	27	112	175	15·7
1912	11,130	243	243	21·7	179	15·9	10	7	21	86·4	169	15·3
1913	11,130	249	249	22·3	152	15·56	10	5	12	48·2	142	12·7
1914	11,139	260	260	23·3	180	16·1	12	5	18	69·	168	15·08

Area of District in Acres (land and inland water), 2,049a. 4r.

Total Population at all ages 11,139 } At Census of 1911.
Total families or separate occupiers ... 2,690 }

TABLE II.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED
DURING THE YEAR 1914.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of cases notified.						Total Cases notified in each locality. (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.			Total cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.					Whitby.	Ruswarp.	Helredale.		
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.					45 to 65.
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	12		3	6	2	1		7	5		10
Erysipelas	9				1	1	7	6	3		9
Scarlet Fever	12		2	5	4	1		3	9		
Enteric Fever	1					1			1		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	16	1	4	2	6	2	1	13	3		
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1			1				1			
TOTALS ...	51	1	9	14	13	6	8	30	21		19

Isolation Hospital, Stainsacre Lane, Rural District.
Sanatorium, Aysgarth.

TABLE III.
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING
THE YEAR 1914.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents, whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths, whether of Residents or Non- Residents in Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
All causes { Certified ... { Uncertified	180	18	6	6	8	3	18	41	80	24
Enteric Fever	1						1			
Whooping Cough	6	1	3	1	1					
Diphtheria and Croup ...	1			1						
Influenza	3							1	2	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	10				1		6	2	1	1
Tubercular Meningitis	1	1								
Other Tuberculous Dis- eases	5					1	2	1	1	3
Cancer, malignant dis- ease	19						1	8	10	4
Meningitis	2			1	1					
Organic Heart Disease...	23					1	1	6	15	2
Bronchitis	13	2					1	4	6	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	8		1	2			1	1	3	
Other diseases of res- piratory organs ...	6			1				4	1	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	1	1								
Appendicitis & Typhlitis	3						1	1	1	3
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	3							2	1	
Other accidents & Dis- eases of Pregnancy and Parturition...	1	1								
Congenital Debility and Malformation, includ- ing Premature Birth...	8	8								
Violent Deaths, exclud- ing Suicide	6						3	3		
Other Defined Diseases...	60	4	2		5	1	1	8	39	8
TOTALS	180	18	6	6	8	3	18	41	80	24

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1914.

NETT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks & under 3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified ...	6	1	2		9	3	4	1	1	18
	Uncertified ...										
Whooping-Cough	...							1			1
Tuberculous Disease	...							1			1
Convulsions	...		1			1	1	1		1	2
Bronchitis	...						1	1			3
Diarrhoea	...							1	1		1
Gastritis ...	...							1			2
Injury at Birth ...	...	1				1					1
Premature Birth	...	4		1		5					5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	1		1		1					1
Other Causes	...										1
TOTAL	...	6	1	2		9	3	4	1	1	18

Nett Births in the year—Legitimate, 248; Illegitimate, 12.

Nett Deaths in the year—Legitimate Infants, 16; Illegitimate Infants, 2.

TABLE IV.

Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
IN CONNECTION WITH
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES
AND HOMEWORK.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.

*Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.*

	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries) ...	4	0	0
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries) ...	32	0	0
WORKPLACES (other than Outworkers' Premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	9	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	45	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

2.—Defects Found in Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—	Number of Defects. Found.	Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness	3	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	3	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>

3.—Home Work.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.		
	Lists received from Employers once in the year.		
	Lists.	Outworkers.	
		Con- tractors.	Work- men.
Wearing Apparel— Making, &c. ...	8	2	12
Furniture and Upholstery ...	1	1	
Artificial Flowers ...	1	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	10	3	12

4.—Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the Year.									Number.
Millinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Boot Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Herring Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Plumbers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Jet Workers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	1
Laundry	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Joiners' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total number of Workshops on Register									47

5.—Other Matters.

Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year	...	2
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WHITBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Council's Sanitary Inspector

AND

Cleansing Superintendent,

O. E. GRAHAM, M.S.I.A.,

Cert. Royal San. Inst.,

Diplomé in Meat Inspection, etc.,

FOR THE

Year ending December 31st, 1914.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Council's Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing
Superintendent for the year 1914.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Council Offices, Whitby.

To the Chairman and Members of the Whitby Urban
District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Second Annual Report as Sanitary Inspector and Superintendent of Public Cleansing, for the year 1914.

The whole of my time is not devoted to the two specific offices, as I hold other offices under the Council.

During the year, however, considerable sanitary improvement has been carried out throughout the town, as will be seen from the tabulated statistics supplied.

With new Acts of Parliament, relating to Public Health, and more serious thought given to sanitation by the public, the duties of Health Officers during recent years have been enormously increased,

In addition to the inspection of the district, there is the clerical part of the work, which includes the keeping of proper books, records, registers, drafting of notices, correspondence, etc.; this, together, with the interviewing of owners and agents, absorbs a considerable amount of my time, and the labour entailed cannot be very well shown on paper.

I am glad to report that nothing has arisen during the year necessitating legal proceedings.

During the year, 110 complaints were received at the office with regard to alleged nuisances, and all received prompt attention. I have during the year made 3,971 inspections; these are summarised as follows:—

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Common lodging-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dairies, cowsheds, and milk-shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Dwelling-houses—Housing Town Planning Act, 1909	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	147
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Factories and workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Markets, meat, fish, fruit, and provision shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Owners and agents interviewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	270
Offensive trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Re-visits to properties under notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	690
Re-visits to work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	539
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Schools disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	714
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	731
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	457
										<hr/>
Total										3,971
										<hr/>

Arising out of these inspections, 639 nuisances were found on 149 premises, 541 have been abated during the year, 84 are at the present time having attention, and 14 have not received attention. 270 owners or agents were seen personally, 26 letters were sent to owners and agents, and 13 statutory notices were served.

I have on one or two occasions during the year been invited by owners of property to report on the sanitary circumstances of property in the town, and on each occasion the result has been a thorough sanitary overhaul of the property involved.

The removal of nuisances, summary here appended, gives the number and kind of nuisances found and remedied during the year :—

REMOVAL OF NUISANCES SUMMARY.

	Nuisanees found.	Abated & in hand.
Drains requiring re-construction	89	86
Drains requiring connecting with main sewer	33	33
Drains not efficiently trapped	91	88
Drains requiring ventilation shafts... ..	34	33
Defective sink pipes and drains	13	13
Defective yard drains	18	18
Defective cellar drains	6	6
Defective eave and fall pipes	8	8
Defective roofing	9	9
Defective urinals	2	2
Defective baths	—	—
Defective water-closets	15	15
To provide urinals	1	1
Waste pipes requiring disconnecting	24	24
Fall pipes requiring disconnecting	14	14
To provide eave and fall pipes	5	5
To provide sinkstones in houses	19	18
Nuisances from want of drains	3	3
Nuisances from water in cellar	—	—
Nuisances from cellar wells	1	1
Nuisances from cesspools	1	1
Nuisances from street gullies	—	—
Nuisances from stagnant water	31	31
Nuisances from defective surface of yard ...	14	14
Nuisances from smoke	—	—
Nuisances from poultry, pigeons, and animals	1	1
Nuisances from want of damp course	1	0
Offensive accumulations	3	3
Offensive ashpits and privies	2	2
Offensive swill-tubs	—	—
Offensive urine receptacles	—	—
Urine guards required	—	—
Closets requiring lime-washing	—	—
To provide ashbins	56	54
Ashpits and closets requiring reconstruction	3	3
Ashpits and closets requiring proper doors and covering	—	—
Old privies requiring alteration to w.c. system	46	45
Insufficient closet accommodation	8	8
Houses overcrowded	1	1
Houses unfit for habitation	—	—

Houses requiring cleansing ... ..	—	.....	—
Houses requiring ventilation	31	.....	31
Houses damp	9	.....	8
Houses requiring water supply	8	.....	8
Houses requiring windows to open	8	.....	8
Houses requiring walls and ceilings repairing	8	.....	8
Houses requiring light	2	.....	2
Houses requiring dry areas	1	.....	0
Workshops requiring lime-washing ... ..	—	.....	—
Cowsheds requiring lime-washing	11	.....	11
Cowsheds requiring draining	1	.....	1
Cowsheds requiring lighting	2	.....	2
Cowsheds requiring paving	1	.....	1
Cowsheds requiring ventilation	2	.....	2
Bakehouses requiring lime-washing or cleansing	3	.....	3
Bakehouses requiring ventilation ... ..	—	.....	—
	—		—
Total	639		625
	—		—

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

The Housing and Town Planning Act is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health, who is the officer appointed under the Act. Up to the end of July, the work was receiving its fair share of attention, but, when war was declared, and your Medical Officer was called away on service, the work was suspended. The work accomplished under the Act will be found in the Medical Officer's report. The visits which appear in the preceding summary are visits made by your Inspector when assisting the Medical Officer. I again draw the attention of the Council to the open channel system of drainage in the courts and yards throughout the town; these often become very offensive, and occasionally cause dampness to the house walls against which they are laid. Consideration should be given to this class of drainage, and they should be gradually replaced with proper covered drains.

BAKEHOUSES.

The number of bakehouses on the register is 15, two of which are underground bakehouses. Sixteen visits have been made to them during the year.

The Factory and Workshops Act, 1910, requires all inside walls, all ceilings, passages, etc., whether plastered or not, to be either painted with oil or varnish, or lime-washed, or partly painted and partly lime-washed. If painted, the walls must

be washed down with soap and water once in six months; if lime-washed, must be renewed once in the same period. In three cases it was found that the work of lime-washing was slightly overdue, but the work was put in hand on the occupier's attention being drawn to same.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

In my last report I drew attention to the fact that there existed in the heart of the town three premises where offensive trades were being carried on, and which ought never to have been licensed. I am pleased to report that, at the annual licensing date, the licenses of the whole of these were refused, and licenses granted for more suitable premises at Spital Bridge, which have been fitted up under modern principles. I am pleased to say that the businesses have been carried on at these premises since June, and that no complaints have been received. Thirty-two visits have been made during the year to these premises, and I have invariably found them clean and satisfactory.

The number of licenses granted were:—Two for tripe-boiling, 2 for gut-scraping, and 1 for fat-melting.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

In connection with the above, 29 inspections have been made. These visits include visits to bakehouses and out-workers' premises, but the majority of the visits have been paid to workshops. The duties of a Sanitary Inspector regarding this work are chiefly in connection with workshops, in which he is armed with full powers; while in factories contravention of the Factory and Workshops Act with respect to sanitary conveniences and fire escapes are dealt with only after notification to the District Council by the Factory Inspector.

At the present time, I am engaged compiling a new register of the Factories and Workshops in the town, but, being single-handed, and having multifarious duties to perform, the progress is slow. During the year, 4 notifications of the establishment of new workshops have been received from His Majesty's Inspector of Factories.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

The common lodging-houses remain the same as last year, namely, two. Four visits have been paid to these during the year, and they have been found fairly clean, and well maintained.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILK-SHOPS.

There are 22 registered cow-keepers within the district, and on the 22 farms are housed 236 milch cattle.

Steady progress is maintained with regard to structural improvements, and two sheds have been provided with light and ventilation during the year. Three other sheds were to receive attention, but, owing to the unsettled state of the country, and the responsible parties being called away on active service, the work had to be abandoned. The work of alteration, I am informed, is to be put in hand early in the new year.

Milk as an article of food enters largely into our everyday diet, and also forms a staple food of young children and invalids; therefore, to ensure it being supplied clean, uncontaminated, and wholesome, it is essential that it be produced under the most hygienic conditions.

This can only be attained by well-constructed sanitary cowsheds, and by the endeavours of the farmer to keep his sheds in a clean sanitary condition.

It is very essential that all cattle should be groomed; I am pleased to say that some farmers pay attention to this matter. Milk drawn from the udders of dirty and ungroomed cows cannot be regarded as a product likely to be free from germs and contamination.

I am pleased to record that the Council, during the year, have appointed Mr. K. J. Urquhart, Veterinary Surgeon, to make a bi-annual inspection of the milch cattle in the district. The first inspection has been made, and the report submitted to the Council. In only one case did Mr. Urquhart consider it necessary to submit a sample of milk for bacteriological examination. The Veterinary Inspector's report will be found on the last page.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER 1913.

No notifications have been received in the urban district since this Order came into operation. Owing to the war, the Order for the present is suspended.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

The slaughter-houses remain the same as last year: 10 registered and 2 licensed. The 10 registered slaughter-houses were in existence previous to the passing of the Towns Improvement Clauses Act, and the two licensed ones are

licensed yearly. The structural conditions do not meet the suggestions set out in the Local Government Board Memorandum, nor can they be made to comply, on account of their situation. On the whole, they are satisfactorily maintained.

A few items in the Memorandum are as follows:—(1) The slaughter-house must not be within 100 feet of any dwelling-house. (2) The site should be such as will admit of free ventilation on at least two sides. (3) The approach should not be through any dwelling-house or shop. (4) There must be a good supply of pure water. (5) The floor must be of concrete, and must be laid to fall to a gully trap fixed outside. (6) The walls to be lime-washed four times each year. (7) No dog to be kept in a slaughter-house.

The latter condition is very important, as the dog is the host of certain species of tape-worms; without the dog they would cease to exist, as the life cycle of the worm would be broken. The lava of these worms affect the internal organs of certain animals, and sometimes cause a carcase to become emaciated and unfit for food.

I again draw the attention of the Council to the fact that a considerable amount of slaughtering is carried out on farms within the district, simply because we have no accommodation in the town. This is very unsatisfactory in many ways; firstly, the meat escapes inspection; secondly, such slaughtering is in direct contravention of the law, as most of the meat is sold by retail in the shops in the town. It is to be hoped that the Council will consider in the near future the necessity of providing a modern abattoir, which would not only rid the town of its present evils, but would facilitate inspection.

MEAT INSPECTION.

This important branch of my work has again received special attention. It is a very difficult matter to satisfactorily carry out this work under present conditions, as the slaughter-houses are situate in various parts of the town, and slaughtering is not carried out at any particular time. As I have previously said, the proper time to inspect a carcase is during the process of dressing, and this is impracticable under present conditions. Again, the slaughtering I refer to under the heading slaughter-houses escapes my supervision, and, until this matter receives the attention of the Council, I cannot see the work being carried out satisfactorily.

Cattle, sheep, and pigs are all subject to diseases which render them quite unfit for food. The diseases affecting the animals destroyed during the year are:—Tuberculosis,

Oedema, Jaundice, and Cystic and Parasitic diseases of the organs. The weight of the meat condemned during the year may appear excessive, but this is not the case; it is about the average weight, compared with the quantity slaughtered.

I again draw the attention of the public against a class of meat which is retailed from door to door in summer; I refer to meat brought in from the country, and which has not been subject to inspection. The public would be well advised if they made their purchases in the town from butchers whose premises are subject to inspection, and not be persuaded to purchase for the sake of saving a copper or two.

A considerable quantity of pork is brought into the town from the country, dressed. These carcasses are invariably without the head and viscera, and without these organs in certain diseases inspection is impracticable. I am pleased again to report that the whole of the meat condemned was surrendered by the butchers, and in no instance did I consider the circumstances such as to warrant any other method of procedure. The total weight of the meat condemned during the year is as follows:—

TOTAL WEIGHT OF MEAT CONDEMNED.

					Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef in carcase	...	...	...	...	1	8	2	3
Pork in carcase	...	...	...	...	—	1	3	14
Veal in carcase	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Mutton in carcase	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	7
Meat not in carcase	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Organs	...	...	...	...	2	10	2	12
					—	—	—	—
			Total	...	4	1	1	8
					—	—	—	—

TABLE OF ORGANS CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR FOOD.

					Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Heads	...	...	...	5	.....	—	..... 2
Tongues	...	...	...	5	.....	—	..... 2
Lungs	...	...	...	16	.....	2	..... 2
Livers	...	...	...	21	.....	2	..... 2
Stomachs	...	...	...	7	.....	—	..... 1
Kidneys	...	...	...	21	.....	—	..... 2
Uterus	...	...	...	6	.....	—	..... —
Hearts	...	...	...	7	.....	2	..... 2
Spleen	...	...	...	7	.....	—	..... 1
Udders	...	...	...	5	.....	—	..... —
Mesentary	...	...	...	7	.....	—	..... 1
Cald	...	...	...	7	.....	—	..... 1
Intestines	...	...	...	6	.....	1	..... 1

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

The fruit and vegetables exposed for sale in the town have been found to be satisfactory. Not a single complaint has been received concerning the quality of any fruit or vegetables which have been sold.

POULTRY AND RABBITS.

The poultry and rabbits exposed for sale in the town have been inspected at intervals, and, with the exception of a few rabbits suffering from coccidiosis, nothing serious has been found.

SCAVENGING.

One of the most important duties of sanitary administration is that of efficient scavenging. It is essential in order to maintain the town in a healthy condition that anything of an offensive character, or which is likely to become offensive, should be removed without delay from our midst. Strict supervision is kept over this work, and very few complaints were received during the year.

Taking into consideration the large percentage of privy middens which exist in the town, I consider the work is carried out very satisfactorily. Strong argument could be put forth in support of drastic measures being adopted for the early extinction of this undesirable form of convenience, and a great deal could be said regarding the dangers likely to result from the excretions of persons suffering from various diseases, being deposited and allowed to germinate in privy middens.

Such conditions are also ideal breeding grounds for the common house fly, and it is not very pleasant to realise that the flies one sees crawling over the food in the houses may have come direct from these places. A considerable portion of the town is scavenged twice weekly, and the whole of the town is scavenged twice weekly during the visiting season.

During the year, 57 privies have been converted to the water carriage system; this number includes those converted under the Housing and Town Planning Act. Dustbins have in all these cases been supplied for the storage of house refuse.

I am pleased the Council are considering the matter of the provision of a refuse destructor. This is urgently needed, and I hope it will be an accomplished fact before another year has passed.

METHOD OF DISPOSAL.

We have still to rely on farmers providing tips for our use, and considerable difficulty has been experienced during the year in getting tips at a reasonable distance from the town. Some farmers who have been in the habit in the past of opening out tips for our use, now absolutely refuse to have the refuse, on account of the rubbish which it contains.

The summary which follows will give some idea of the amount of refuse dealt with during the year, together with the method of disposal; and this does not include tradesmen's refuse.

The closet and ashpit accommodation in the town is as follows :—

Fresh-water closets	...	...	...	...	2,299
Midden privies	...	...	...	...	272
Moveable privy tins	...	...	...	...	821
Dry ashpits	...	...	...	...	396
Ash-bins	...	...	...	...	586
Ash-boxes	...	...	...	...	21
Ash-barrels	...	...	...	...	20
Ash-pails	..	..	...	...	30

DETAILS OF COLLECTION.

	Loads collected.				Places emptied.
January	332	13,450
February	332	13,420
March	337	13,600
April	346	13,325
May	436	17,000
June	332	13,350
July	455	17,100
August	417	14,010
September	359	13,650
October	400	17,373
November	320	13,907
December	398½	17,303
				<hr/> 4,464½	<hr/> 177,488

DETAILS OF DISPOSAL.

			Loads sent out of the district by truck.		Loads deposited on farms within the district.
January	...	...	129	.....	203
February	...	...	132	.....	200
March	...	...	120	.....	217
April	...	...	30	.....	316
May	...	...	49	.....	387
June	...	...	—	.....	332
July	...	...	—	.....	455
August	...	...	—	.....	417
September	...	...	—	.....	359
October	...	...	99½	.....	300½
November	..	...	93	.....	227
December	...	...	128½	.....	270
Totals	...	...	781	.....	3683½

STREET SWEEPING.

This work has been re-arranged during the year, and the alteration proves very satisfactory. The working expenses have very materially decreased. With the exception of the main roads through the town—I refer to Baxtergate and Church Street—no difficulty is experienced; but these roads, owing to the excessive amount of traffic, soon get very dirty, and special attention has to be given to them. On several occasions, Baxtergate has been cleansed by swilling, and it is remarkable how soon after the process is over the road presents the same untidy appearance. A good road is easily kept clean, but a bad road never is clean. The street gullies are cleansed weekly, and the yards on the Cragg and in Church Street are cleansed by the Council's staff.

INFECTION AND DISINFECTION.

As will be seen from the Medical Officer's Report, 51 cases of infectious disease have been notified during the year. Tuberculosis, now a notifiable disease, accounts for 16 cases. The whole of the houses where infectious diseases have occurred have been disinfected. Eight rooms have been disinfected at the request of the occupiers or owners. The method employed is to spray the walls, floors, ceilings, etc., with liquid formalin. Occasionally, gaseous formalin is used, and the method appears to answer satisfactorily.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Although the Council appointed me Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, no action has been taken during the year under the Act. This is owing to the pressure of the work in the department during the year. The County Council's Inspector has, however, on several occasions during the year, been in Whitby taking samples under the Act.

PETROLEUM.

During the year, 10 applications were received to store petroleum. The whole of the licenses were granted. The amount of petroleum allowed to be stored in the district under license is 6,260 gallons.

DEFENCE OF THE REALM ACT, 1914.

Order in Council, October 14th, 1914.

20a. Every place used for the storage of petroleum (whether petroleum oil or petroleum spirit) within the meaning of the Petroleum Acts, 1871 to 1879, turpentine, methylated spirit, wood naphtha, or any other highly-inflammable liquid, exceeding in the aggregate one hundred gallons (other than a storage place sunk below the level of the ground so as to form a pit), shall be surrounded by a retaining wall or embankment so designed and constructed as to form an enclosure which will prevent, in any circumstances, the escape of any part of the petroleum or other inflammable liquid.

Under this Order, every petroleum store in the town was inspected, and the necessary work has been carried out at the whole of those which did not comply.

FORESHORE.

During the year, several carcasses of animals have been removed from the foreshore and destroyed; these have come down the river with the heavy floods. A quantity of beef, etc., was removed and destroyed, which had washed up from the wrecked "Rohilla."

In concluding my report, I beg to thank the Council for their hearty co-operation in my efforts, and for their kindness during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

O. E. GRAHAM, M.S.I.A.

Inspector of Nuisances and Scavenging Superintendent.

First Veterinary Report

**upon the Inspection of Cattle in Dairies
for the prevention of Tuberculosis in the
Milk Supply.**

**To the Chairman and Members of the Whitby Urban
District Council.**

Gentlemen,

On November 30th, December 1st and 3rd, I visited, along with Mr. Graham, your Sanitary Inspector, the whole of the dairy farms and cowsheds in Whitby, and examined all the dairy cows, which number 236, for tuberculosis of the udder, etc.

Three cows were found with indurated udders, the result of mastitis, and one with a tubercular udder. A sample of milk from this cow has been tested, and the tuberculin test has been applied; all necessary precautions have been taken in this case to prevent the spread of the disease.

The condition of the cows, with one exception, was very satisfactory.

Some of the cowsheds are old, and insufficiently lighted and drained; others, which have received the attention of Mr. Graham, have been greatly improved.

A great deal can be said regarding cleanliness in cowsheds, and I should like to see more attention paid to the grooming of dairy cattle.

In my opinion, it is necessary that cowsheds should be light, well ventilated, clean, and tidy—conditions which are certainly essential for the health and good condition of the cattle kept therein.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

K. J. URQUHART, M.R.C.V.S.